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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

18 FEB 1993

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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CN9300462

RECEIVED

FEB 25 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Bob Dole
United States Senator
636 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66101

Dear Senator Dole:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Tony Bertels of Olathe, Kansas. Your constituent objects to rate increases by his local cable television operator.

I have enclosed for your constituent's information publications describing pending Commission proceedings under the 1992 Cable Act. Although these provisions are not yet in effect, the Commission is in the process of adopting new regulations for cable television, as mandated by Congress. The Commission will attempt to implement these provisions faithfully, and will consider the conduct of the cable industry during the interim period in deciding what kind of regulation is needed. Your constituent's letter will be placed in the record of this proceeding.

I trust that the foregoing and the enclosures are informative.

Sincerely,

Roy J. Stewart
Roy J. Stewart
Chief, Mass Media Bureau

Enclosures

Congressional

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/09/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300462	02/09/93	02/03/93	02/22/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Robert Dole	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Tony Bertels	inq. re: rate regulation & 92 Cable Act

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
MMB	ENF	C&I	

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/09/93	2/9	2-10	

REMARKS: Respond to the Kansas City, KS office.

9 FEB 1993

BOB DOLE
KANSAS
141 SENATE HART BUILDING
(202) 224-6521

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1601

February 3, 1993

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
RULES

*MMS
CATV rules
462*

*Ms. Sizemore
Legislative Affairs
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street Room 808
Washington, D.C. 20554*

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

*Because of the desire of this office to be responsive
to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of
the attached letter from Tony Bertels is respectfully requested.
Your findings and views will be greatly appreciated.*

*Please direct any correspondence regarding this matter
to my Kansas City Senate Office, 636 Minnesota Ave, Kansas City,
Kansas 66101, phone 913/371-6108, fax 913/371-2403.*

*Thank you in advance for your assistance and
cooperation.*

Sincerely yours,

*
BOB DOLE
United States Senate*

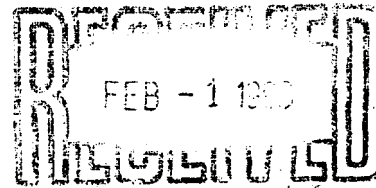
*BD:jw
Enclosure*

1-26-1993

To: Senator Bob Dole
636 Minnesota Ave
Kansas City, Ks 66101

Ref: Jones Intercable

SEN. BOB DOLE



KANSAS CITY OFFICE

Dear Senator Dole:

My name is Tony Bertels. As a constituent, I have never written you, though I have voted for you in every election since I became old enough to cast my ballot (1976).

I realize that you are a very busy man, especially now that the Democrats have come to roost. Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter I sent to Jones Intercable as well as the notice that was sent to me concerning a rate and service change. To the best of my knowledge, this carrier has never sent a newsletter before. My monthly notices look like other bills I receive. Even my paper boy lets me know above board if my subscription goes up!

The service change they have announced is a sham and a quick way to get deeper into our pockets. I find it astounding that a legitimate company would pull a stunt like this. My present basic cable package (\$11.95) contains everything they propose in their Limited Basic Service less Government Access. I have ESPN instead! To retain ESPN, I will be forced to spend an additional \$10.80 a month. Can you see the reason for my dismay?

I know that this may be a trivial issue for your office, but I sincerely feel something should be done about such obvious disdain for what is right and fair. Maybe a call from you to Mr. Johnson down at Jones Intercable would make them think twice before they put the screws to us again!

Thank you,

Tony Bertels
15109 S. Blackfoot Dr.
Olathe, Ks. 66062

1-26-1993

To: Doug Johnson GM
Jones Intercable, Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Independence, Mo. 64055

Ref: Service Rate Hike

Mr. Johnson:

As one of your cable subscribers, I felt it necessary to write and express my dissatisfaction and dismay at the under-handed way in which Jones Intercable informs its customers of a rate increase and a MAJOR change in basic service.

You must feel that your general clientele is not only ignorant, but of little or no consequence in the way you choose to do business. Disguising important notices that affect not only our viewing but also our wallet is deceitful and most probably borders on illegal! Your notice looks an awful lot like the majority of junk mail that passes quickly from hand to trash without being opened. It was lucky for us that your guise did not go totally unnoticed!

A small rate increase, though hard to swallow in these times of 0% inflation, would have been bearable. Your change in basic service is absolutely ridiculous! Who in their right mind is going to subscribe to limited basic? What on earth is the draw? You can receive most of these stations free! WGN and TBS are not viable reasons for this package. Who are you trying to fool? Only the inclusion of ESPN made the package worthwhile. Your "modest rate increase of 6%" is a joke when going from \$11.95 to \$22.85. That's more like 100% in my book! Most of the stations in your Tier One Service are of little or no value to me and I dare say thousands of other households.

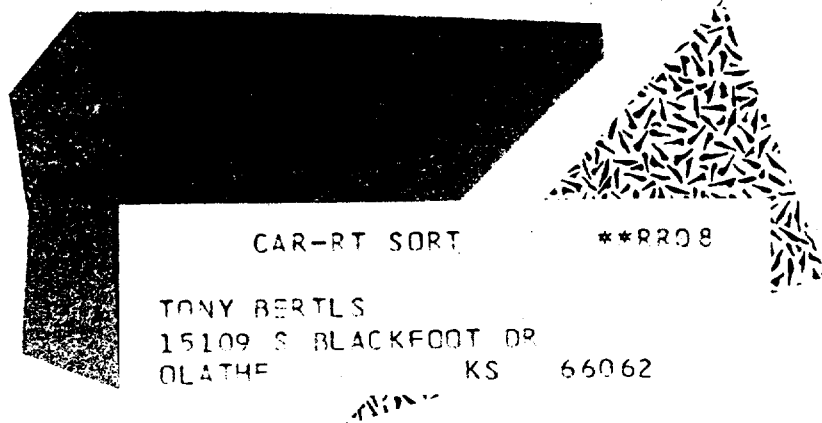
I welcome the day when another carrier will have the opportunity to vie for my business. I have a long memory and the rotten taste in my mouth from this little affair will certainly linger. A copy of this letter and your deceitful notice will be sent to Senator Dole's office. I'm quite sure a large number of your subscribers will be joining me in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tony Bertels, subscriber
15109 S. Blackfoot Dr
Olathe, Ks. 66062



P.O. Box 2000
4700 Selsa Rd.
Independence, MO 64055



VIEWPOINTS

I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of several changes that Jones Intercable will make in our cable television service offerings and rates. First, we have renamed our current *Basic Only* and *Tier* services. Second, we will change the channel locations of some of our services. Third, we will be launching a new programming service. And finally, we will adjust the rate for one level of our service.

Effective March 1, 1993, the system will offer new *Limited Basic* and *Tier One* services. The new *Limited Basic Service* replaces our *Basic Only* level of service. It is designed for those customers who are interested in receiving cable only for improving the reception of local television stations or who would like to have a lower priced option available. We believe this

TIER ONE

We will also modify our current *Tier* service effective March 1, 1993. Our new *Tier One Service* will consist of channels 15 through 36, excluding premium services. The new *Tier One Service* will include certain services previously carried on our *Basic* lineup, and some of those currently offered on our *Tier* service. The price for *Tier One Service* will be \$10.80. It must be purchased in conjunction with the *Limited Basic Service*. Those customers subscribing to *Limited Basic* and *Tier Ones Services* will receive what we will popularly call our *Basic Plus Package*. *Tier One Service* will consist of the following programming:

- 15 - The Family Channel
- 16 - The Weather Channel
- 19 - CNN Headline News
- 20 - Home Shopping Club
- 22 - CNBC

Headline News will no longer be on the *Limited Basic Service*.

Customers who currently receive *Basic* service and wish to receive the programming now provided as part of our *Tier One Service* (including ESPN and CNN Headline News), may contact our office at 795-1100 (Missouri) or 782-4466 (Kansas) and request a subscription to the new *Tier One Service*. There will be no charge to upgrade.

Effective March 1, 1993, customers subscribing to our *Basic Plus Package* (*Limited Basic* and *Tier One Services*) will find some channels in different locations and Black Entertainment Television (BET) added to their line-up. The new price for this package is \$22.75 per month (\$11.95 for *Limited Basic Service* plus \$10.80 for *Tier One Service*). This represents an increase of \$1.30 per month. This modest 6% increase is